

REMARKS

During a telephonic interview between the undersigned attorney and the examiner on April 18, 2005, the various rejections of the claims were discussed with respect to the present invention and the cited prior art references. A summary of the telephonic interview is presented below. At the conclusion of the telephonic interview, it was agreed that claims 5-8, 10, 17, 19-23, and 25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Additionally, it was agreed that claims 9, 11-13, 24, 26-28, 32-43, 45, 47-61, and 63-76 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 2-7, 9-15, 47-61, and 63-76 are presently pending in the application. Many of the presently pending claims have been amended for clarification purposes, and it is believed that the presently pending claims now comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. With regard to the examiner's objection to claim 6 on page 2 of the office action, it is noted that the reference characters (a) and (b) are used to represent a ratio which may be expressed as (a):(b) or (a)/(b).

Claims 1, 8, 16-46, and 62 have been canceled from the application.

Claims 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 47, 54, 56, and 63, have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, it is believed that independent claims 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 47, 54, 56, and 63 are believed to be allowable as indicated by the examiner.

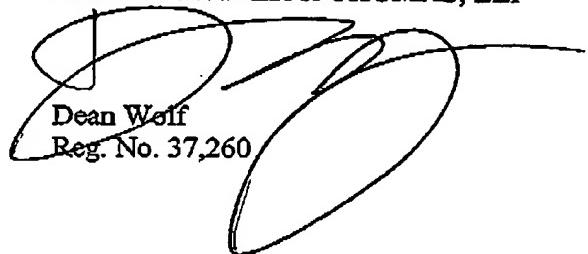
Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and also the limitations of claims 1 and 8. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 2 is now in condition for allowance. Additionally, the presently pending dependent claims of the application are also believed to be allowable since they each depend upon a respective independent claim of the application which is believed to be allowable.

Because claims the presently pending claims are believed to be allowable in their present form, many of the examiner's rejections in the Office Action have not been addressed in this response. However, applicant respectfully reserves the right to respond to one or more of the examiner's rejections in subsequent amendments should conditions arise warranting such responses.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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